AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Application No.: 10/089,185

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 - 62. (canceled).

63. (new): A method for measuring fibrinogen concentration comprising steps of:

mixing a sample and a reagent comprising thrombin, calcium ion, water-soluble organic

acid and nonionic surfactant; and

measuring a coagulation time of the mixture of the sample and the reagent.

64. (new): The method of claim 63, wherein the water-soluble organic acid is

selected from the group consisting of formic acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid,

valeric acid, oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, gluconic acid, lactic acid, glucuronic acid,

glycolic acid, tartaric acid, malic acid, citric acid, glutaric acid, aminoacetic acid, and

aminocaproic acid.

65. (new): The method of claim 63, wherein the reagent further comprises a

synthetic polymer, a high-molecular polysaccharide, or combination thereof.

(new): The method of claim 65, wherein the synthetic polymer is selected from 66.

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the group consisting of polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene glycol and polyvinylpyrrolidone.

(new): The method of claim 65, wherein the high-molecular polysaccharide is 67. selected from the group consisting of dextran and Ficoll.

- 68. (new): A method for stabilizing thrombin, characterized by mixing thrombin with a calcium ion, a water-soluble organic acid and a nonionic surfactant.
- 69. (new): The method of claim 68, wherein the water-soluble organic acid is selected from the group consisting of formic acid, acetic acid, propionic acid, butyric acid, valeric acid, oxalic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, gluconic acid, lactic acid, glucuronic acid, glycolic acid, tartaric acid, malic acid, citric acid, glutaric acid, aminoacetic acid, and aminocaproic acid.
- 70. (new): The method of claim 68, wherein the nonionic surfactant is selected from the group consisting of octyl glucoside, peptyl thioglucoside, decanoyl-N-methylglucamide, polyoxyethylene dodecyl ether, polyoxyethylene heptamethylhexyl ether, polyoxyethylene isooctylphenyl ether, polyoxyethylene nonylphenyl ether, polyoxyethylene fatty acid ester, sucrose fatty acid ester and polyoxyethylene sorbitol ester.

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